United Nations A/BUR/56/SR.3

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
25 September 2001

Original: English

General Committee

Summary record of the 3rd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 14 September 2001, at 7 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Han Seung-soo (President of the General Assembly)..... (Republic of Korea)

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01-53760 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 7.15 p.m.

Organization of the fifty-sixth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/BUR/56/1 and Add.1*)

Section III. Adoption of the agenda (*continued*)

Paragraphs 45 and 46 (*Inclusion of items*) (*continued*)

Item 188 (*continued*)

1. **Ms. Espinoza Madrid** (Honduras), said that had she been present at the previous meeting, she would have supported the inclusion of item 188 in the agenda of the General Assembly.

Item 189

2. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request by the Republic of Korea for the inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-sixth regular session of an additional item entitled "Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula" (A/56/194*).

3. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 189 should be included in the agenda of the fifty-sixth session.*

Item 190 (*continued*) (A/55/241*)

4. **The Chairman** said that on 7 September 2001, the General Assembly had decided to include an additional item entitled "Observer status for Partners in Population and Development in the General Assembly" (A/55/241*) in the agenda of the fifty-sixth session. The representative of Bangladesh had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

5. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Sorcar (Bangladesh) took a place at the Committee table.*

6. **Mr. Sorcar** (Bangladesh), speaking as the host country of Partners in Population and Development, said that the intergovernmental organization had been established following the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 and had 16 member States. Its work focused on the transfer of knowledge in the field of population and reproductive health through South-South cooperation. He hoped that the General Assembly would grant the organization observer status so that it could contribute effectively to the work of the United Nations.

7. **Mr. Navarrete** (Mexico) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Bangladesh.

Section IV. Allocation of items

Paragraph 47

8. **The Chairman** drew attention to paragraph 47 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/56/1 and Add.1*), which stated that the allocation of items was based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous sessions. The Committee might wish to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401, paragraph 5 of the annex to its resolution 39/88 B, paragraph 6 of the annex to its resolution 45/45, paragraphs 2 and 5 (b) and (d) of annex I to its resolution 48/264 and paragraph 24 of the annex to its resolution 51/241 concerning the allocation and clustering of items.

9. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraph 47.*

Paragraph 47 bis

10. **The Chairman** said that in paragraph 47 bis of document A/BUR/56/1/Add.1* the Secretary-General drew the attention of the General Committee to paragraph 12 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/285, which stated that starting at the fifty-sixth session, the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" would be considered by the Third Committee.

11. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraph 47 bis.*

Paragraphs 48 and 49

12. **The Chairman** said that the allocation of items indicated in paragraphs 49 and 6 (b) of documents A/BUR/56/1 and Add.1*, respectively, reflected suggestions made by the sponsors of the items. In that connection, he noted that in paragraph 48, the Secretary-General drew the Committee's attention to

paragraphs 2 and 3 of General Assembly resolution 54/195 of 17 December 1999. Paragraph 2 stated that, in future, any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly. Paragraph 3 requested the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to bring to the attention of all the States Members of the General Committee and General Assembly the criteria and procedures laid down by the General Assembly whenever a request was made by an organization seeking observer status in the General Assembly.

13. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraph 48.*

14. **The Chairman** said that General Assembly resolution 54/195, paragraphs 2 and 3, would therefore be taken into account during the Committee's consideration of the allocation of items 182, 185 and 186.

Paragraph 49

15. **The Chairman** said that in paragraphs 49 and 8 of his memorandum (A/BUR/56/1 and Add.1*, respectively), the Secretary-General listed items of the draft agenda that had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to pronounce itself on the recommendation that it should make regarding the allocation of those items recommended for inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-sixth session.

16. *It was so decided.*

Item 181 of the draft agenda (A/RES/55/258)

17. **Mr. Florent** (France) noted that in adopting its resolution 55/258, the General Assembly had decided to inscribe the item entitled "Administration of justice" in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session without specifying the committee to which the item should be allocated. In the memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/56/1, para. 60), it was proposed that the question of human resources management, which would include the administration of justice, should be allocated to the Fifth Committee. However, the latter topic, on which the Secretary-General had been asked to submit a report (A/RES/55/258 (sect. XI, para. 4)), would cover a number of legal issues, such as the gap between the statutes of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization and the proposal that the International Court of Justice should be empowered to hear appeals against decisions taken by the United Nations Administrative Tribunal. It might therefore be preferable for item 181 of the draft agenda to be allocated to the Sixth Committee. The report to be submitted by the Secretary-General would provide needed guidance on the matter; he therefore proposed that allocation of the item should be deferred until the Committee could take into account the content of the report in question.

18. *The Committee decided to defer further consideration of item 181 of the draft agenda.*

Items 183, 184 and 189 of the draft agenda

19. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 183, 184 and 189 of the draft agenda should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Items 182, 185, 186, 187 and 190 of the draft agenda

20. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 182, 185, 186, 187 and 190 of the draft agenda should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Paragraph 50 (Item 10 of the draft agenda)

21. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should hear a brief presentation by the Secretary-General of his annual report on the work of the Organization (A/56/1).*

Paragraph 50 bis (Item 10 of the draft agenda)

22. *The Committee also decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 14 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/285, which stated that the President of the General Assembly, after consideration by the Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, would inform the Assembly of his assessment of the debate on the report in order for the Assembly to determine the need for further action.*

Paragraph 51 (Item 12 of the draft agenda)

23. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the various parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council should be allocated in accordance with the suggestions made by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 52 (Item 18 of the draft agenda)

24. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that all the chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to specific Territories should be referred to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), thus enabling the Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.*

Paragraph 52 bis (Item 21 of the draft agenda)

25. **The Chairman** noted that in paragraph 52 bis (A/BUR/56/1/Add.1*), the Secretary-General recalled paragraph 7 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/285, in which the Assembly had decided that a joint debate would be held on the cooperation item, during which all or some aspects of cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations might be addressed.

26. *The Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the provisions of paragraph 52 bis.*

Paragraph 53 (Item 36 of the draft agenda)

27. **The Chairman** noted that in paragraph 53, the Secretary-General recalled paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 55/23 of 13 November 2000, in which the General Assembly had decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at the fifty-sixth session, on 3 and 4 December 2001, to the consideration of item 36 of the draft agenda, including consideration of any follow-up measures, and commemoration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations.

28. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should take note of paragraph 53.*

Paragraph 54 (Item 56 of the draft agenda)

29. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.*

Paragraph 55 (Item 73 of the draft agenda)

30. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 73 (Question of Cyprus) should be allocated at an appropriate time during the session.*

Paragraph 56 (Item 85 of the draft agenda)

31. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency dealing with the subject matter of item 85 should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of that item.*

Paragraph 57 (Item 109 (c) of the draft agenda)

32. **The Chairman** noted that the information contained in paragraph 57 concerning the dates of the two-day high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership had been superseded by a decision of the General Assembly, taken at its 1st plenary meeting, on 12 September 2001, to the effect that the high-level dialogue would be held on Thursday and Friday, 20 and 21 September 2001.

33. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the new dates.*

34. **The Chairman** said that in paragraph 57, the Secretary-General also recalled paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 55/193 of 20 December 2000, in which it had decided that the high-level dialogue would consist of plenary meetings, ministerial round-table meetings and informal panels, with the participation of non-governmental actors, and that the final outcome of the dialogue would be a summary by the President, to be presented at the closure of the event.

35. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of those provisions.*

Paragraph 58 (Item 120 of the draft agenda)

36. **The Chairman** noted that in paragraph 58, the Secretary-General recalled paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 55/57 of 4 December 2000, in which it had decided that two plenary meetings of the fifty-sixth session would be devoted to volunteering, to coincide with the close of the International Year of Volunteers on 5 December 2001.

37. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of paragraph 58.*

Paragraph 59 (Item 124 of the draft agenda)

38. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 111 of the draft agenda.*

Items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting

39. **Ms. Willson** (United States of America) said that item 21 (f) (formerly item 26) of the draft agenda, "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union", had been proposed for consideration in plenary meeting. However, as stated in paragraph 48 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General and in accordance with current practice relating to other organizations and with General Assembly resolution 54/195, consideration of any aspect of the item which might result in the extension of privileges equivalent to observer status must first be undertaken in the Sixth Committee.

40. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration in plenary meeting, including the new item 21 (a) to (m) on cooperation (old items 21 to 32 and 184) and 183 (Observance of the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict), excluding item 73 (Question of Cyprus) and with the deletion of item 38 (Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly), should be allocated to the plenary Assembly.*

Items proposed for consideration by the First Committee

41. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration by the First Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

42. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), taking into account its decision on the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India", should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee

43. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration by the Second Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee

44. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration by the Third Committee, including item 38 (Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly), should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee

45. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the*

memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration by the Fifth Committee, taking into account its decision to defer the allocation of item 181 (Administration of justice at the United Nations), should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee

46. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum of the Secretary-General for consideration by the Sixth Committee, including items 182 (Observer status for the International Development Law Institute in the General Assembly), 185 (Observer status for the International Hydrographic Organization in the General Assembly), 187 (International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings) and 190 (Observer status for Partners in Population and Development in the General Assembly), should be allocated to that Committee.*

The meeting rose at 8 p.m.